

NVI 5044.1 PATENT

#\ AW 5.23.01

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of Christopher D. Knight Art Unit 1761
Serial No. 09/697,235
Filed October 26, 2000
Confirmation No. 3468
For PROCESS FOR OPTIMIZING MILK PRODUCTION
Examiner Nina Bhat

May 14, 2001

## TERMINAL DISCLAIMER TO OBVIATE A DOUBLE PATENTING REJECTION OVER A PRIOR PATENT

TO THE COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS, SIR:

The owner, Novus International, Inc., of 100 percent interest in the instant application hereby disclaims, except as provided below, the terminal part of the statutory term of any patent granted on the instant application, which would extend beyond the expiration date of the full statutory term defined in 35 U.S.C. 154 to 156 and 173, as presently shortened because terminal disclaimer, of prior Patent No. 6,183,786. The owner hereby agrees that any patent so granted on the instant application shall be enforceable only for and during such period that it and the prior patent are commonly owned. This agreement runs with any patent granted on the instant application and is binding upon grantee, it successors or assigns.

In making the above disclaimer, the owner does not disclaim the terminal part of any patent granted on the instant application that would extend to the expiration date of the full statutory term as defined in 35 U.S.C. 154 to 156 and 173 of the prior patent, as presently shortened by any terminal disclaimer, in the event that it later: expires for failure to pay a maintenance fee, is held unenforceable, is found invalid by a

110.00 CH

05/23/2001 DWARD1

## NVI 5044.1 PATENT

court of competent jurisdiction, is statutorily disclaimed in whole or terminally disclaimed under 37 CFR 1.321, has all claims cancelled by a reexamination certificate, is reissued, or is in any manner terminated prior to the expiration of its full statutory term as presently shortened by any terminal disclaimer. Check either box 1 or 2 below, if appropriate.

[ ] For submission on behalf of an organization (e.g., 1. corporation, partnership, university, government agency, etc.), the undersigned is empowered to act on behalf of organization

I declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent thereon.

2. [X] The undersigned is an attorney of record.

May 14, 2001

Anthony R. Kinney
Typed or Printed Name

- ] Terminal disclaimer fee under 37 CFR 1.20(d) is included.
- ] PTO suggested wording for terminal disclaimer was
  - [X] unchanged
- ] changed (if changed, an explanation should be supplied) Express Mail Label No.